Annual Report of M.O.H.

Please circulate as quickly as possible.

Mr Hean 101

S.M.O. I.
(110 II.)
S.M.O. III.
(87 I.)
S.M.O. IV.
(91 II.)
S.M.O. VI.
(39 II.)

General Library, 47/iv.

Form 26 C/Reg.

Cemaes Rural District Council

(St. Dogmells Division).

Medical Officer of Health's Report for 1937.

Gentlemen,—I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1937 on the sanitary circumstances and administration of the seventeen parishes comprising the St. Dogmells Division of the Cemaes Rural District in the County of Pembroke. No separate figures are supplied by the Registrar General for the St. Dogmells Division alone. The statistical portion of this report, therefore, refers to the whole of the Cemaes Rural District and the other part of the report to the St. Dogmells Division only.

Area.—The area is 79,576 acres.

Population.—The Registrar General's estimate of the resident population mid 1937 is 9,000.

Inhabited Houses.—Number of inhabited houses (end of 1937) according to the rate-books is 2,964.

Rateable value, etc.—The rateable value is £16,801, and the sum represented by a penny rate is £70 12s. 5d.

Chief Industry.—The only industry of any importance in the area is agriculture.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births.—121 births were registered during the year—66 males (2 illegitimate) and 55 females (4 illegitimate), giving a birth-rate of 13.4 per 1,000, which is 1.5 less than that of England and Wales for the same period.

Still-births.—Twelve still-births were registered, six males (one illegitimate), and six females (no illegitimate), giving a still-birth rate of 99.2 per 1,000 (live and still) births.

Deaths.—154 deaths were registered during the year—67 males and 87 females, giving a death-rate of 17.1 per 1,000, which is 4.7 higher than that of England and Wales for the same period.

Infantile mortality.—Seven deaths were registered of infants under one year — four males and three females (no illegitimate), giving a death-rate of 57.9 per 1,000, which is 0.1 less than that of England and Wales.

Puerperal Deaths.—There were no deaths registered from puerperal sepsis, and only one death was registered from other puerperal causes.

Chief Causes of Death.—The chief causes of death were: Acute and chronic nephritis 11; puerperal diseases 1; premature birth, etc., 5; senility 5; suicide 1; other violence 3; other defined diseases 13; ill-defined or not known diseases 3; diarrhœa (two years and over), 2; liver diseases, 0; other digestive diseases 1; cerebral hæmorrhage, etc., 21; heart diseases 32; other circulatory diseases 6; bronchitis 4; pneumonia (all forms) 8; diarrhœa (under two years) 1; scarlet fever 1; influenza 2; tuberculosis of respiratory system 8; other tuberculosis 2; syphitis 1; cancer 23.

Causes of sickness or invalidity.—There were no causes of sickness or invalidity specially noteworthy in the area during the year, and no conditions of occupation or environment which appeared to have a prejudicial effect on health.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

The public health officers of the Council remain the same, no change having been made during the year. There are no developments or changes in the services provided under the following heads: (a) Laboratory facilities, (b) Ambulance facilities, (c) Nursing in the home, (d) Treatment centres and clinics, (e) Hospitals, public and voluntary. I regret to report that there is not a single ambulance stationed in the area or provided by the Council. This may be a serious matter especially in the event of an air-raid.

MIDWIVES.

There are seven midwives practising in the area. Owing to the rough and hilly nature of the country, also the long distances they have to travel, I am pleased to find that these midwives, who are also the district nurses, are now given facilities to obtain light motor vehicles in place of the old pedal cycle which proved to be hopelessly inadequate.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

(1) Water.—The villages of Hermon and Glogue have now been provided with a piped supply of water. The supply is pure and plentiful. The village of Blaenffos is, also, in course of being provided with a piped supply from the Castellan spring. Steps are also in course of being taken to improve the supply of Crymmych, where a hydrostat has been installed to boost an extra supply from the remarkable Waun-yr-yrfa springs. A

piped supply of water was also supplied to Dewi Villa and the adjoining cottages during the year from an excellent spring situated a few hundred yards away from the hamlet. An extension of the Newport supply to King Street was also carried out. Other prospective extensions include the following: Dinas to Werndew, Pareglas and Pwllgwaelod; Moylgrove to Ceibwr; also extensions of the Crymmych, Abercych and Cilgerran supplies. Other prospective schemes, most of them small ones, include the augmentation of the Newport supply, and the provision of new piped supplies for several hamlets in the Newport and Eglwyswrw Parishes.

No samples of water were taken with a view to ascertaining the purity of any of the Council's supplies during the year.

(2) Drainage and Sewerage.—The Newport and Crymmych Sewerage Schemes have, since the issue of my last Yearly Report, been submitted for the approval of the Ministry of Health and provisionally approved. Tenders for carrying out both schemes have been received and one provisionally accepted. The provision of these schemes is going to open up a new new era in the history of both places; and especially in the case of Newport, where developments on a large scale are confidntly anticipated.

The Village of Cilgerran should next receive attention. The conditions here are very much the same as they are at Newport and Crymmych, and the need for sewerage and drainage there is equally urgent. I trust that some arrangement will be come to with regard to the terms of the Unemployed Committee's Grant shortly, as it effectively blocks the road to real progress in matters relating to health in this village.

(3) Rivers and Streams.—All efforts in the past to put a stop to the practice of dumping refuse, etc., in the streams having proved more or less ineffective, the Council have now appointed a watchman in order that the real culprits may be found and punished. This has already had a salutary effect. Three streams have been cleansed since I made my last Yearly Report.

(4) Closet Accommodation.—I have nothing to add to my last report on this matter. Except in the town of Newport and the villages of Crymmych, St. Dogmells and Dinas, the pail closet is still in general use. No rapid change from the dry to the water-carriage system will take place until sewerage has been more generally provided.

(5) Public Cleansing.—No extensions or improvements in the arrangements for refuse collection or disposal were made during the year. Representations have, however, been made to the Parish Council of Moylgrove to arrange for a periodical collection of refuse in the village.

(6) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.—

(a) Inspections made:

Dwelling Houses	381
Visits in connection with water supplies	178
Cowsheds	96
Drains	63
Sanitary Conveniences	64
Pigstyes	88
Back Yards	158
Visits in connection with offensive accumulations	28
Other premises	81
Total ...	1137

(b) Notices served:

Statutory	26
Informal	118
Total ...	144

(c) Results:

Dwelling Houses closed	15
Dwelling Houses rendered fit	29
Cowsheds brought up to standard structurally	16
New Pigstyes built to replace condemned ones	4
Pigstyes structurally improved	10
Pigstyes provided with means of drainage and drainage disposal...	12
E.C.'s converted into W.C.'s	8
New E.C.'s provided	2
Cesspools emptied	5
Slaughter-houses structurally improved..	3
Slaughter-houses cleansed...	2
Filthy houses cleansed	3
Foul accumulations removed	7
Factories provided with sanitary conveniences	1
Nuisances arising from drains abated ...	5
Sanitary conveniences provided for public houses	1
Total ...	121

(7) Shops.—No action taken.

(8) Smoke Abatement.—No action taken.

(9) Swimming Baths and Pools. No action taken.

(10) Eradication of Bed Bugs.—No action taken.

(11) Schools.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 141

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 280

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 130

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 252

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 15

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 47

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 15

3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.—

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 28

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:

(a) By owners 14

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ... Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ... Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:

(a) By owners ... ... Nil

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ... Nil

(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ... Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders Nil

(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made... 15

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit 1

4.—HOUSING ACT, 1936.—PART IV.—OVERCROWDING.—

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 14

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein 14

(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein 78

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ... Nil

(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ... Nil

(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... ...

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.—I reported in my last Yearly Report that there was a marked all-round improvement in the conditions under which milk is produced in the area. This improvement continues. Systematic inspections of cowsheds are made and pressure brought to bear on defaulting cowkeepers to ensure compliance with the Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders.

(b) Meat and Other Foods.— Bakehouses are periodically inspected and found without exception at all times scrupulously clean.

Slaughter-houses are also systematically inspected. In two cases your Sanitary Inspector had to ask you for authority to deal finally with slaughterers who persisted after warning in preparing meat for sale under unsatisfactory conditions. Fortunately it was not found necessary to take further action. Structural improvements were carried out to three slaughter-houses during the year. No meat or food was condemned during the same period.

(c) Adulteration.—No action taken.

(d) Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.—No action taken.

(e) Nutrition.—No action taken.

(d) Shell-fish.—There are no shell-fish beds or layings in the Area.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

There was no undue prevalence of infectious disease during the year,—in fact the second part of the year was remarkably free, only two cases being notified (one pneumonia and one scarlet fever). The following is a complete list of the infectious diseases notified for the whole year: Scarlet fever 5, pneumonia 3, diphtheria 1. Of these eight, two were under two years old, one under four years, two under six years, one under eleven, one under 29, two under 65. No cases were sent to the Isolation Hospital during the year, nearly all the infectious disease cases occurring in the area being treated at the home. The reason for this is mainly that the Isolation Hospital is situated at Pembroke Dock, at the extreme south of the County, whereas our area is extreme north, and parents are averse to letting their children travel that long distance.

Prevention of Blindness.—No action was taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, or under Section 176 of the Public Health Act 1936 for the prevention of blindness or treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes.

Vaccinations.—The number of persons successfully vaccinated and re-vaccinated at the cost of the rates during the year was 37; primary vaccinations under one year, 32; primary vaccinations one year and upwards, 0; number of successful vaccinations, i.e., successful vaccinations of persons who had been successfully vaccinated at some previous time, 5.

Tuberculosis.—No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), or under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925, or Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis).

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease in the area during 1937:—

Age periods.	New Cases. Respiratory.		New Cases. Non-Respiratory.		Deaths. Respiratory.		Deaths. Non-Respiratory.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5—	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
15—	0	2	1	0	0	0	1	1
25—	0	2	0	0	2	2	0	0
35—	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
45—	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
55—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and upwards	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
Totals ...	2	7	2	0	4	4	1	1

The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis are 2 and 10. The two cases not notified were transferable deaths and died in institutions outside the area. The notification of tuberculosis in the area can be said to be fairly efficient, and there were no cases of wilful neglect or refusal to notify. There is no evidence of excessive incidence of or mortality from tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the area.

FACTORY ACT.

There are no factories of any note in the area. Workshops and workplaces were periodically examined and found satisfactory. No young persons between the ages of 14 and 16 presented themselves for examination during the year, or boys over the age of 16 for employment at night.

There are no dangerous trades or works in which periodical medical examination is required in the area.

DAVID HAVARD,

M.O.H. Cemaes (St. Dogmells) R.D.C.

Annual Report of M.O.H.

Please circulate as quickly as possible.

Mr Hearn 101 I

~~S.M.O. I.~~
~~(110 II.)~~
S.M.O. III.
(87 I.)
S.M.O. IV.
(91 II.)
S.M.O. VI.
(39 II.)

General Library, 47/iv.

Form 26 C/Reg.

Cemaes Rural District Council

(Llanfyrnach Division).

Medical Officer of Health's Report for 1937.

A report for the Llanfyrnach Division of the Area under the authority of the Cemaes Rural District Council for the year 1937.

The officers of the Area are Rowland Jones, D.P.H. (Lon.), M.O.H. Sanitary Inspector, Ifor George, C.R.S.I.

No District Nurse has been appointed in the Area.

DIVISION A.

The area of the district is 19.802 acres. The estimated population is 2,070. This is a very scantily populated part owing to a large portion of the area consisting of mountain and rough land.

Number of inhabited houses, 621, giving three-and-a-half people to each house.

By a rate of one penny in the pound the production is only £24.

The calling of the population is practically wholly farming. There are two small woollen factories worked by father and son.

There is a considerable number out of work owing to the shutting down of the quarries at Glôg, and not so many men being employed on the land as formerly.

Births.—There were 29 births in the year —22 boys and 7 girls, giving a birth-rate of 14 to every thousand living. No illegitimate birth notified. No still-births were notified.

Deaths.—The number of deaths was 31, giving a death-rate of 15 per 1,000. Of this 31, 21 were over 60, 11 were over 70, 6 were over 80, and 1 was over 90. This demonstrates that the greater part of the inhabitants are over middle-age; the young people go to other parts. The chief causes of death were heart disease, stroke and cancer. These are the diseases to be expected in a population of older people. There was no death from child-birth. One child under one year died giving an infantile death-rate of 38 to every 1000 births. The number of people who died of cancer was 6—one-fifth of the deaths. No deaths from measles or diarrhœa.

SECTION B.

There have been no changes in (a) The laboratory facilities; (b) Ambulance facilities, which are good; (c) No district nurse in 1937; (d) Hospitals in Cardigan, Carmarthen and Haverfordwest.

SECTION C.

Water.—The water is now laid down to Glôg and Hermon. The quantity is adequate and has passed the chemical and bacteriological tests. Water will shortly be laid on to Blaenffos.

Sewerage.—Crymmych have determined on a sewerage scheme. All endeavours have been made to keep the streams clear, but the dirty water is washed in from the roadsides.

SCHOOLS.

All the schools are now supplied with water except Glandwr and Bwlchygroes. It is expected that water will soon be laid on to Glandwr.

Bwlchygroes.—The school is situated some distance from the pump. There is a well before the school, and I consider that it is the duty of the Educational authorities to supply the water in this school.

All the schools are kept in a good condition.

SECTION D.

Houses.—The report of the Sanitary Inspector will be contained in the report for Cemaes as a whole.

As regards Llanfyrnach area, the number of houses closed as unfit for habitation—2; number closed and not to be occupied until rendered fit for habitation—3; houses repaired under Rural Workers' Act—2; houses that have been repaired—11.

Milk.—The cow-houses have been inspected and notice given if any faults are found.

Slaughter-houses.—One was found to be in a defective condition. It was renovated and a cesspool fixed.

SECTION E.

No case of infectious disease was notified during the year.

Anti-diphtheria toxin is now always used.

Tuberculosis.—Only one fresh case of tuberculosis was notified during the year—a man 37 years old; he died March 1938. One woman of 37 died from tuberculosis. This case had been notified.

I consider that the chief cause of tuberculosis in West Wales is the bad ventilation of the bedrooms.

ROWLAND JONES, M.O.H.

June, 1938.